

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

II. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 5-10, 13 and 14 are pending; claims 11 and 12 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer; and no claims are newly added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

III. SUMMARY OF THE OFFICE ACTION

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Japan Utility Publication No. 52-014775*. Claims 5-10, 13 and 14 were indicated as being allowed.

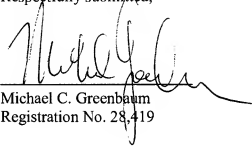
IV. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 11 and 12 were rejected as anticipated by *Japan Utility Publication No. 52-014775*. As Claims 11 and 12 have been cancelled herewith, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been obviated by the present amendment. As such, only allowed claims remain pending in the Office Action.

V. CONCLUSION

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Greenbaum", is written over a horizontal line.

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